THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE L.NARASIMHA REDDY

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WRIT PETITION No.1871 of 2006

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DATED: 01-02-2006

Between:

B.Srinivas . . .Petitioner

And

The Chairman, Sri Giddeperumandla Swamy

Temple, Karimnagar, and others . . .Respondents

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O R D E R:

The petitioner was employed as Junior Assistant in Sri Giddeperumandla Swamy Temple, Karimnagar District, on 29-12-1994 on a consolidated salary of Rs.400/-. Thereafter, he was transferred to Sri GowriShankara Swamy Temple, Rampur, Karimnagar District, through orders, dated 25-11-2004, by the Assistant Commissioner, Endowments Department, Karimnagar. The Deputy Commissioner, Endowments Department, Warangal, third respondent herein, issued proceedings, dated 22-12-2005, directing the transfer of the petitioner and four other Junior Assistants to their respective parent temples. The petitioner challenges the said proceedings.

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner, the learned Government Pleader for Endowments and the learned Standing Counsel for the second respondent.

The impugned order reveals the startling and astonishing circumstances that are prevailing in the temples and religious institutions. In the second respondent temple, the approved cadre strength, on secular side, is one Junior Assistant and one night Watchman, on contract basis. As against this, the Assistant Commissioners, Endowments Department, Karimnagar, who worked at various points of time, had posted as many as five Junior Assistants. The limited sources of the temple have been squeezed and squandered for payment of salaries to the clerks, so appointed. In fact, it calls for not only disciplinary action, but also recovery proceedings against the Assistant Commissioners, Endowments Department, who are responsible for such postings. A situation has emerged, where not only the establishment charges have reached 76% of the assessable income, but also various other funds were diverted for payment of salaries. The third respondent has taken corrective steps, though at a belated stage and no interference is called for.

The writ petition is accordingly, dismissed. The Commissioner of Endowments, to whom a copy of this order shall be circulated, shall cause an enquiry into the circumstances that lead to posting of such a large number of Junior Assistants in the second respondent temple, get the resultant loss assessed, and take necessary steps within the framework of law.

There shall be no order as to costs.

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(L.NARASIMHA REDDY, J)

1st FEBRUARY, 2006.

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